



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Star *et al.*

Art Unit: 2872

Application No. 09/881,446

Filed: June 13, 2001

For: RAPID FLUORESCENT LABELING OF  
TISSUE FOR MICRODISSECTION USING  
FLUORESCENT SPECIFIC BINDING AGENTS

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Date: November 20, 2001

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT  
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
P.O. BOX 2327  
ARLINGTON, VA 22202

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on November 20, 2001 as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT, U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, P.O. BOX 2327, ARLINGTON, VA 22202.

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In the specification:

Please insert the following header and paragraph on page 1, immediately following the title:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Ca This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/211,698, filed June 14, 2000. The provisional application is incorporated herein in its entirety.--

At page 2, paragraph 2, please replace the entire paragraph with the following:

ad --Immunohistochemical staining is another method for identifying individual cell types and tissue structures within a tissue section that distinguishes cells according to their production of specific antigens (*i.e.*, according to their immunophenotype). Such staining allows morphologically similar but functionally different cells to be differentiated. Unfortunately, immunohistochemical staining regimens typically foster loss of biological molecules, such as mRNA. For example, Jin *et al.* (Jin *et al.*, *Lab. Invest.*, 79: 511-513, 1999) noted a lower yield of reverse-transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) products (*i.e.*, a lower initial mRNA concentration) from tissue samples that were immunohistochemically stained in a conventional manner.--

By this amendment the specification has been changed to reflect a prior related application. The priority claim was already referenced in the Declaration and the Transmittal Letter that accompanied the patent application when it was filed. This proper priority claim has already been noted on the filing receipt. The specification has also been modified to correct an obvious typographical error. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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